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Title: Regarding special category status to the state of Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI MEKAPATI RAJA MOHAN REDDY (NELLORE): Hon. Madam Speaker, we would like to very humbly submit to this august House that at the time of division of Andhra Pradesh, the then hon. Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh had promised for a Special Category Status to the State of Andhra Pradesh. At the same time, the hon. leaders of the then Opposition Party, the BJP, Shri Arun Jaitley and Shri M Venkaiah Naidu not only supported it but they said that Andhra Pradesh needed the special category status for 10 years. They went on telling that if they came to power, they would definitely give 10 years' special category status to the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Madam, the BJP and the TDP stipulated it in their election manifestoes and said that all the promises given will definitely be fulfilled and the Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh will be given for 10 years. They went on making this promise at several places. They said it even before Tirupati, before the Lord Venkateswara; Nellore, Rajahmundry and at Visakhapatnam. The people believed their words and voted for the BJP and the TDP in Andhra Pradesh.

Now, when they are in power, people are expecting that all the promises should be fulfilled by the present Government.

**माननीय अध्यक्ष :** आप अपनी बात संक्षेप में कहिए।

SHRI MEKAPATI RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Madam, this is very crucial. Five crore people of Andhra Pradesh are just waiting for it. At the time of division, a lot of injustice had been done to the State of Andhra Pradesh. Having promised all this, how can the Government of India go back on its words? No other promise or assurance or special package is alternative for Special Category Status. The Government should fulfill its promises. Otherwise, what is the sanctity of democracy? The hon. Prime Minister himself said that if there are any lapses on the Government side, we have the right to ask for it. ...(*Interruptions*)

**माननीय अध्यक्ष :** आप बैठ जाइये।

â€¦(व्यवधान)

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Madam, this issue has been repeatedly raised by the hon. Members from Andhra Pradesh and even several other hon. Members. I have assured the House about it even on earlier occasions also. The Government is fully seized of this issue. In terms of revenue and finance, the division of the State has caused an element of unfairness to the State of Andhra Pradesh. We are in agreement with the hon. Members that it has to be compensated.

Several assurances in terms of legislation and otherwise have been made. We are looking into each one of them and the Government is at a fairly advanced stage in its discussion with the Government of Andhra Pradesh and we will shortly arrive at a solution. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

**माननीय अध्यक्ष :** इस तरीके से कुछ नहीं होता।

â€¦(व्यवधान)

HON. SPEAKER: The hon. Finance Minister has given his reply. आप सब ऐसा मत कीजिए। आप उनके साथ बैठकर बात कीजिए।

â€¦(व्यवधान)

HON. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.00 p.m.

**12.59 hours**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.*